

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAJ-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 /061 W

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O P 201129Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9434

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 3160

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS CB

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 20, THE 51ST DAY OF THE OFFENSIVE

REF: PHNOM PENH 3083

1. SUMMARY: TAKEO FORCES SECONDED TO THE DEFENSE OF PHNOM PENH JUMPED OFF ON AN ARMOR-REINFORCED ATTACK DOWN ROUTE 1. NEAK LUONG TOOK A LARGE CALIBER BOMBARDMENT; A RELIEF FORCE MADE SOME PROGRESS TOWARD AN ISOLATED BATTALION ON THE CITY'S EASTERN PERIMTER. MAUNG RUSSEI REPORTEDLY STILL HAS FRIENDLY POCKETS OF RESISTANCE AND A RELIEF COLUMN NEARING THE TOWN RAN UP AGAINST THE KC KILLING 50 AND TAKING ONE PRISONOR. A SCORE OF ROCKETS HIT POCHENTONG AND SOUTHERN PHNOM PENH KILLING THREE AND INJURING 21. END SUMMARY.

2. TAKEO GOVERNOR GRIBADIER GENERAL KEN TRI TOOK CHARGE OF THREE OF HIS BATTALIONS DEFENDING PHNOM PENH AND LED THEM IN AN ATTACK DOWN ROUTE 1 SOUTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL. THEY MOVED 1 1/2 KILOMETERS WITH ARMOR SUPPORT BEFORE MEETING KC RESISTANCE EAST OF DEI UTH.

3. NEAK LUONG ON THE MEKONG TOOK TWENTY-NINE MIXED 105MM
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HOWITZER AND 75MM RECOILLESS RIFLE ROUNDS. THE EFFORT TO

RESTORE THE CUT BETWEEN THE TOWN AND A BATTALION ISLOATED
ON THE EASTERN PERIMTER REPORTEDLY PROGRESSED.

4. THE COLUMN PUSHING SOUTH TOWARD MAUNG RUSSEI FROM
BATTAMBANG KILLED 50 KC AND TOOK ONE PRISONER AS THEY
SLOWLY ADVANCED. FANK POCKETS ARE STILL SAID TO BE HOLD-
ING OUT IN THE KEY AGRICULTURAL CENTER.

5. SEVENTEEN ROCKETS HIT AT POCHENTONG KILLING TWO PEOPLE
AND WOUNDING 18. ONE OF THE ROUNDS DAMAGED AN EMPTY
AMMUNITION TRUCK NEAR THE AIRBASE. THREE ROUNDS LANDED
IN SOUTHERN PHNOM PENH NEAR AN ELECTRICITY PLANT FOR
THE FIRST TIME IN 1975. THE EXPLOSIONS KILLED ONE PERSON
AND INJURED THREE.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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